SYL Project

4204. SHRI S. S. SURJEWALA : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Prime Minister has convened a meeting of Punjab and Haryana Chief Ministers for the completion of SYL Canal in Punjab territory;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether any agreement has been arrived at for the resumption of Work on this portion;

(d) if the answers to parts (a) to (c) above be in the negative, whether Government propose to convene meeting of two Chief Ministers and Water Resources Minister to resolve the SYL canal dispute: and

(e) by when the canal is likely to be completed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P. K. THUNGON) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise,

(c) to (e) Government of Punjab has already been advised to engage appropriate agency/agencies to complete the balance works of SYL in Punjab. The time schedule for completing the project will depend upon the nature and capacity of the new agency/agencies to be engaged by Government of Punjab.

Increase in Water Rates

4205. SHRI AHMED MOHMEDBHAI PATEL : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Central Government is actively pushing for an increase in the water rates charged from farmers as per the recommendations of the Vaidyanathan Committee on pricing of irrigation water;

(b) if so, whether the State Governments have opposed this move of increasing water rates from farmers;

(c) whether the Planning Commission had also set up a Group of officials to go into the recommendations of Vaidyanathan Committee;

(d) if so, what are their findings;

(e) whether the Commission had circulated the recommendations among the States and sought their views on implementation of the report; and

(f) if so, how many State Governments have forwarded their views with the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P. K. THUNGON) : (a) to (f) Irrigation being a subject in the State List, water rates are to be fixed by the States themselves. The Committee on Pricing of Irrigation Water under the Chairmanship of Dr. A. Vaidyanathan was set up by the Planning Commission in October, 1991 to know the present status of irrigation water pricing in various states and its impact on financial management of irrigation works as well as to suggest remedial measures. The Committee submitted its report in September, 1992. The copies of the Committee Report have already been circulated to all the states. Replies from 11 states namely, Assam, Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Himachal Pradesh, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal besides the North Eastern council have been received by the Planning Commission so far. The Planning Commission has also set up a Group of Officials to go into the recommendations of the Vidyanathan Committee. The Group met for its first meeting on 19-1-1944.

उत्तर प्रदेश में चालू सिंचाई परियोजनाओं की संवीक्षा

4206. **श्री ईश दत्त यादव** : क्या जल संसाधन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार ने उत्तर प्रदेश में चालू सिंचाई परियोजनाओं की संवीक्षा का कार्य शुरू नहीं किया है; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो उसके कारण क्या है; और यदि संवीक्षा की गई है, तो उत्तर प्रदेश के संबंध में क्या-क्या कमियां पाई गई हैं तथा उन्हें दूर करने के संबंध में क्या प्रयास किए गए हैं ?